

E 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 E

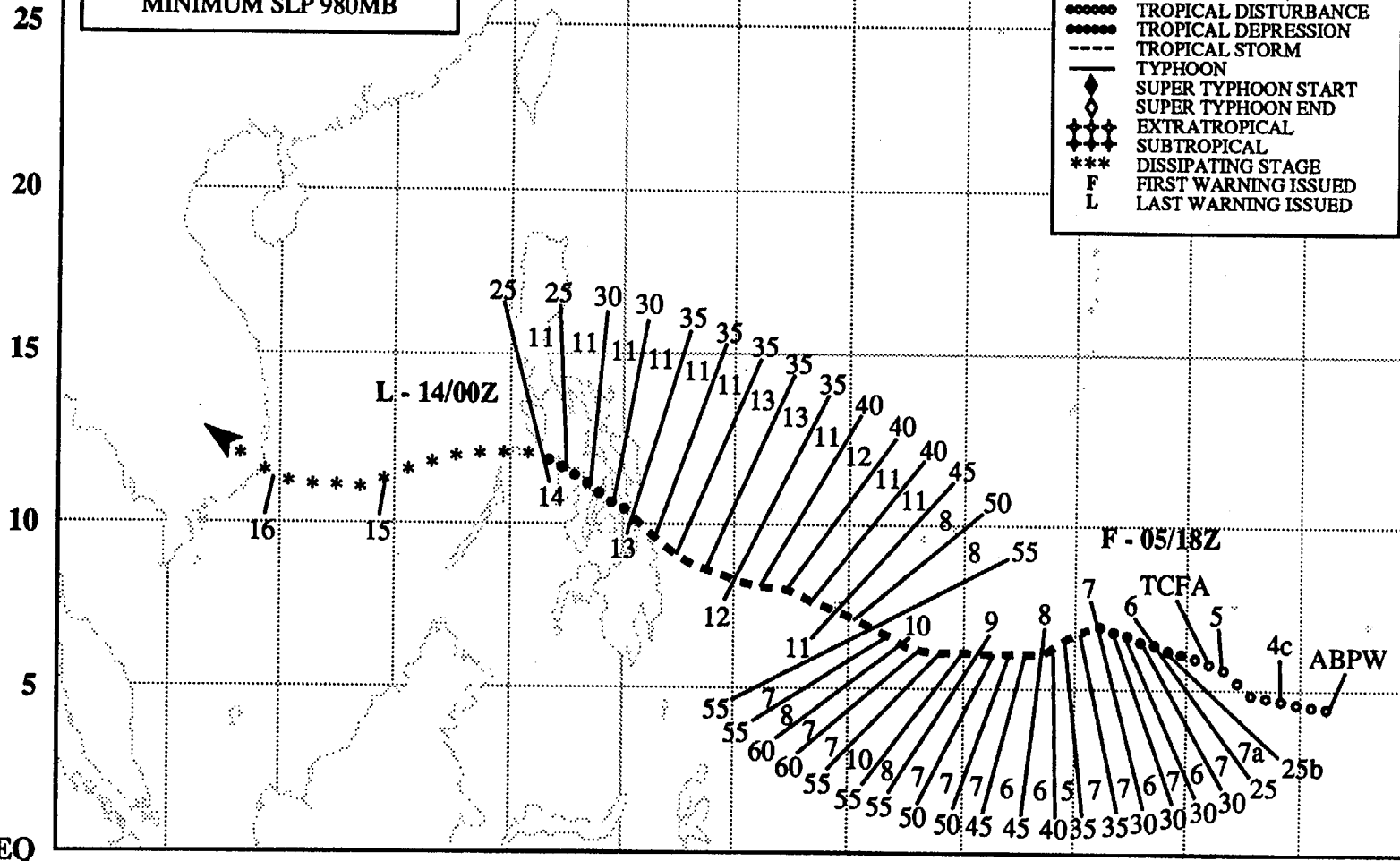
N 30

**TROPICAL STORM SHARON**  
**BEST TRACK TC-01W**  
**03 MAR- 16 MAR 91**  
**MAX SFC WIND 60KT**  
**MINIMUM SLP 980MB**

**LEGEND**

- 6-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
- SPEED OF MOVEMENT (KT)
- INTENSITY (KT)
- POSITION AT XX/0000Z
- TROPICAL DISTURBANCE
- TROPICAL DEPRESSION
- TROPICAL STORM
- TYPHOON
- SUPER TYPHOON START
- SUPER TYPHOON END
- EXTRATROPICAL
- SUBTROPICAL
- DISSIPATING STAGE
- FIRST WARNING ISSUED
- LAST WARNING ISSUED

36



EQ

## TROPICAL STORM SHARON (01W)

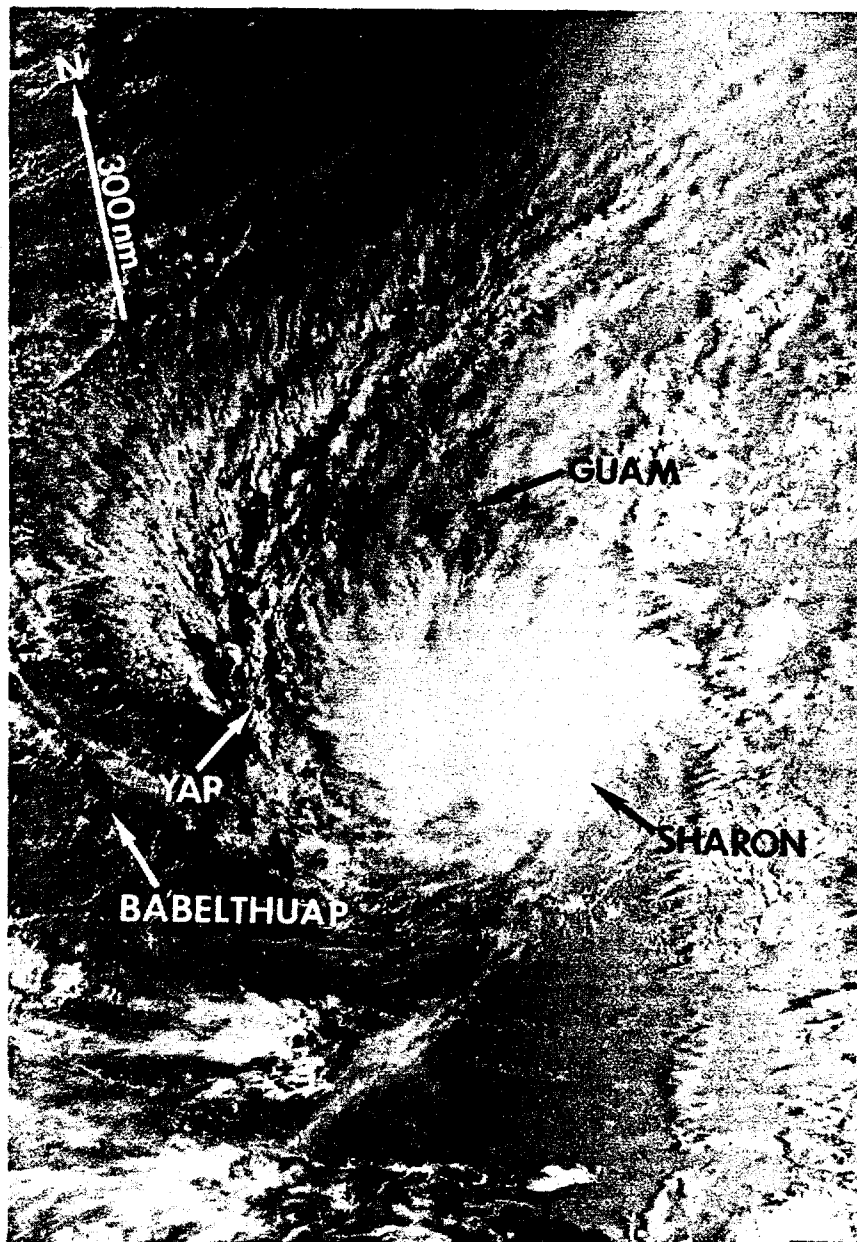


Figure 3-01-1. Tropical Storm Sharon near peak intensity east of Yap (062234Z March DMSP visual imagery).

Sharon, the first tropical cyclone of 1991 in the western North Pacific, developed the first week of March in conjunction with a burst of low-level westerly winds that extended eastward along the equator from New Guinea to the international date line. Its persistent convection was initially discussed on the 030600Z Significant Tropical Weather Advisory. Increased deep convection around the partially exposed low-level circulation center prompted the issuance of the 050451Z Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert. The tropical cyclone developed slowly due to persistent upper level shear on the eastern side of the convective cloud mass. The first warning, valid at 051800Z, did not forecast further intensification to a tropical storm because of the

amount of shear evident from satellite imagery. However, as Sharon tracked steadily westward, it reached a peak intensity of 60 kt (30 m/sec) south of Yap before the central dense overcast sheared apart east of Belau. Koror (WMO 91408) reported light winds as the broad circulation center passed over Belau on 11 March, then the sustained surface winds increased to 30 kt (15 m/sec) as Sharon moved west of the station. Later, as the tropical cyclone continued to weaken over the central Philippine Islands, JTWC issued the final warning at 140000Z. The remnants of Sharon continued westward across the South China Sea and dissipated over southeastern Vietnam on 16 March.